AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5   (canceled)

Claim 6 (Previously presented): A container plug attaching device according to claim 8 wherein the rotary shaft extends horizontally, the anvil being directed downward when in its sealing posture, a container transport conveyor being provided at a level below the rotary shaft, the conveyor having a container transport path extending in a direction transverse to the rotary shaft and intersecting a lower end of the path of movement of the projection, the anvil and the conveyor being drivable in synchronism so as to insert an outer end of the anvil as moved toward the sealing posture into an upper-end opening of the container and to position the container edge portion between the projection of the anvil in the sealing posture and the sealing member.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A container plug attaching device according to claim 8 wherein the anvil has a base end portion fixed to the rotary shaft and an outer end portion provided with plug holding means, and the outer end portion is offset from the base end portion axially of the rotary shaft by a distance greater than the distance corresponding to the thickness of the base end portion.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A container plug attaching device for attaching to an edge portion of a container defining an outlet opening therefrom a tubular plug having an opening therethrough and a flange for disposition around the edge portion of the container opening, the device including an anvil and a sealing member which cooperate to clamp therebetween for sealing the container edge portion and the flange by pressing, the container plug attaching device comprising:

a rotary shaft carrying the anvil extending radially therefrom and carrying a plug-engaging projection projecting from a clamping face of the anvil;

drive means operative to rotate the rotary shaft on an intermittent basis stopping the anvil at a sealing position with respect to the container outlet opening and opposite the sealing member;

supply means for supplying plugs to the anvil including a plug chute and reciprocable delivery means operable in timed sequence with rotation of the rotary shaft to transfer a plug to the plug-engaging projection of the anvil during movement of the anvil toward the sealing position, said chute having a delivery opening disposed adjacent a head of a reciprocating plug transfer member and being disposed intermediate said plug-engaging projection on said anvil when said anvil is rotatably disposed in a plug-receiving position adjacent said delivery opening of said chute;

means for reciprocatively extending said head of said transfer member through said chute opening to transfer a plug from said chute to said anvil projection; [[and]]

wherein the plug transfer member of said delivery means is moveable through the delivery opening toward or away from the path of movement of the plug-engaging projection, and the plug transfer member has a plug suction face opposed to the path of movement of the projection, the suction face being inclinedly shaped as to gradually approach the path of movement of the projection from an upstream side thereof with respect to the path toward a downstream side thereof, the distance between the clamping face of the anvil and the path of movement on the downstream side of the suction face of the plug transfer member as the clamping face is moved toward the path is substantially equal to the height of the plug; and

means actuable when the anvil is in the sealing position for operating the sealing member to attach the plug to the container.